



#### REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments is courteously solicited.

With regard to Applicant's claim for priority, Applicant wishes to advise that they are in the process of obtaining a certified copy of each of the German applications upon which priority is claimed. Applicant will file the priority documents when received.

Applicant submits new formal drawings concurrently herewith for approval by the draftsman. Copies of the formal drawings are attached hereto and have incorporated the necessary changes so as to overcome the Examiner's objections raised on paragraphs 2 and 3 of his Office Action.

Applicant submits concurrently herewith a substitute specification for entry into the instant application. Applicant also encloses a marked up copy of the original specification indicating the changes made in the substitute specification. The substitute specification does not contain new matter. The substitute specification addresses all of the objections raised by the Examiner in paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 of his Office Action. In addition to the substitute specification Applicant attaches hereto as Exhibit A and Exhibit B printouts from the Wēbopēdia which define the terms ISDN and TFT respectively.

Finally, Applicant has amended previously submitted independent claim 1 and added new independent claim 19. In addition, previously submitted dependent claims 2 and 18 have been amended. It is respectfully submitted that independent claims 2 and 18 and the claims which depend therefrom patentably define over the art of record for the reasons set forth hereinbelow.

Amended claim 1 has been modified to clarify the differences between the present invention and the cited and applied references. Firstly, according to the present invention the portion 26 of the mirror surface has a two dimensional, finite-sized shape. This is disclosed in figures 1 and 4 as well as on Page 4, line 27 of the original application, where the area 26 is described to have a size of about 24 x 30 cm. Hence, the area 26 can be clearly seen as a non-reflecting part of the mirror surface 22, even if there is no display 28 attached, or the display is switched off.

Compared to the invention, the Brown document describes a mirror with a front wall 20, which looks like an ordinary mirror, when the light bulb 14 is switched off (column 2, lines 51-54). To achieve this, the grooves 28 are very narrow, i.e. have a quasi one-dimensional structure with an indefinite width.

The White and the Fromm documents, however, show mirrors where the mirror glass has no transparent portion at all;

instead the mirror planes are semi-transparent (e.g. claim 1 in column 5, line 48 with Fromm and column 2, lines 17-22 with White).

According to the present invention, it is possible to change the piece of information displayed in the transparent area 26 of the mirror surface 22 in a very simple way without the need to exchange the display/motif itself, and without opening the mirror case (see Page 1, lines 14-17 and lines 22-23). This is an improvement over the prior art cited. In Brown it is necessary to change the graphic design 8 if the information given is to be changed. According to the given embodiments it is likely that such an exchange of the motif is not possible at all (see, e.g. column 2, line 56: "engraved graphic design 8"; column 2, lines 61-64: "non-opaque sheet 32 to the back surface"). The same is true with the disclosure of White, where the indicia 16 and 20 needs to be changed if the displaced information is to be changed (column 2, lines 41-43). The same is true with Fromm, where a couple of transparent images 26 are supported on the back side of the mirror (column 3, lines 38-40), which are not meant to be changed at all.

New claim 19 includes the additional limitation that is a combination of originally filed claims 1 and 5. The displayed information is not only defined to be interchangeable, but

defined to be interchangeable by an input device, i.e. by electronic means.

In light of the foregoing it is submitted that all of the claims as presently pending, that is claims 1-19, patentably define over the record and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

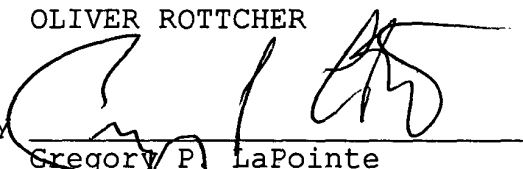
If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

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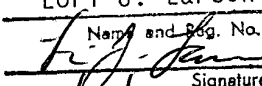
Respectfully submitted,

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Date: January 2, 2003

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1. (Amended) A mirror with a non-reflective portion provided within its reflective surface as an information provider, [characterized in that] wherein at least a portion [(26)] of the mirror surface [(22)] is transparent for seeing therethrough and is backed by a display [(28).], whereby the display is provided with an interchangeable item of information.

2. (Amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein the display [(28)] is provided with a moving image.

3. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein the display [(28)] is provided with a colored image representation.

4. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized by a flat image] or claim 19 wherein the display [(28) or] is a flat screen.

5. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized by a] or claim 19 wherein the display [(28) employing] employs one of TFT [or] and plasmas technologies.

6. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized by a] or claim 19 wherein the display [(28) with] includes hologram.

7. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein behind the mirror surface, [(22)] at least one loudspeaker [(38)] is connected to the display [(28)].

8. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein behind the mirror surface, [(22)] at least one loudspeaker [(38)] is connected to an input device.

9. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the display [(28)] is connected to an input device [(50)].

10. (Amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 9 [characterized by an external] or claim 19 wherein the input device [(50)] is an external input device.

11. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein the mirror surface [(22)] is part of a mirror insert [(20)] which is associated with a frame [(12), forming] which forms a mirror interior [(40)].

12. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein the mirror surface [(22)] is part of a mirror attachment [(21) and same] which is fitted onto a frame [(12)] to form a mirror interior [(40)].

13. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 11 [characterized by a] wherein the frame [(12) which] delimits the mirror interior [(40)] and [which] is connected to the mirror surface [(22)].

14. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 13 [characterized in that] wherein the frame [(12)] is composed of channel profile members [(14, 14<sub>q</sub>) whose] having a width (b) which determines the depth of the mirror interior [(40)].

15. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] or claim 19 wherein the display [(28)] is secured to [the] a frame [(17)], possibly to] by strut means [(19) which are associated with the frame].

16. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 7 [and claim 13 characterized in that] wherein the loudspeaker [(38)] is associated with a perforated region [(42)] of [the] a frame [(12)].

17. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized by] or claim 19 including a radio receiver module for the image data.

18. (Twice amended) A mirror as set forth in claim 1 [characterized by] or claim 19 including an integrated remote



operating means for volume control[, in particular an infra-  
red operating means].



Marked up version of abstract

1/2/03

[ABSTRACT]

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In a mirror [(10)] with a non-reflective portion [(26)] provided within its reflective mirror surface [(22)] as an information provider the portion is transparent and is backed by a display. The display has a moving image or has a colored image representation. Preferably at least one loudspeaker is connected to the display behind the mirror surface [(22)]. That loudspeaker can also be connected to an input device.

[Figure 1]